

WHAT EVERY PARENT SHOULD KNOW ABOUT CHILDREN WITHOUT FATHERS

The presence of a father in a child's life is vitally important in the child's development. Children with fathers present in their lives have many advantages while they are growing up, and as adults. The same cannot be said of children without fathers. Here are some startling statistics about fatherless children. Is your child one of them?

- 72% of all teenaged murderers grew up without fathers. 60% of rapists were raised in fatherless homes.
- 70% of the kids now incarcerated in juvenile corrections facilities grew up in a single-parent environment.
- Fatherless children are twice as likely to drop out of school as their classmates who live with two parents.
- Fatherless children are eleven times more likely than are children from intact families to exhibit violent behavior.
- Children whose fathers are absent consistently score lower than the norm in reading and math tests.
- 75% of teen suicides occur in single-parent families.
- Children who live apart from their fathers experience more accidents and a higher rate of chronic asthma, headaches, and speech defects.
- 80% of the adolescents in psychiatric hospitals come from fatherless homes.
- Compared to girls raised in homes where both parents are present, the daughters of single parents are 164% more likely to become pregnant before marriage, 53% more likely to marry as teenagers, and 92% more likely to dissolve their own marriages.
- A growing body of evidence shows a high correlation between fatherlessness and violence among young men (especially violence against women).
- The absence of a biological father increases a daughter's vulnerability to rape and sexual abuse by 900%. (Often these assaults are committed by stepfathers or the boyfriends of custodial mothers).

